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Docket No: AU-00000A-15-0309

October 19, 2015

Chairman Susan Bitter Smith  
Commissioner Robert Burns  
Arizona Corporation Commission  
1200 W Washington  
Phoenix, AZ 85007-2996

Arizona Corporation Commission

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**RE: Letter of September 8, 2015 regarding campaign contributions to ACC candidates**

Dear Chairman Susan Bitter Smith and Commissioner Robert Burns:

Vote Solar hereby responds to your letter dated September 8, 2015, in which you request that "entities that appear before the Commission agree to voluntarily refrain from making campaign contributions in support of or in opposition to Corporation Commission candidates."

Vote Solar is a 501c3 non-profit organization, whose mission is to make solar energy a mainstream energy source. As a 501c3 organization, we are prohibited from engaging in electoral activities, and therefore have not and will not make financial contributions to candidates seeking office as an ACC Commissioner. We should note that Vote Solar is not a trade association and does not represent a specific solar business interest. Rather we work for the public to make solar more accessible and more affordable for more Americans.

Established in 2002, Vote Solar engages in state, local and federal advocacy campaigns to remove regulatory barriers and implement key policies needed to bring solar to scale. We are a grassroots organization with 60,000 members in all 50 states, including over 3,500 members in Arizona. Since 2008, we have worked in Arizona to support the interests of the supermajorities of Arizonans who want to see the state transition to increased use of renewable energy.

We appreciate the Commission's attention to this issue, since the underlying concern, avoiding regulatory capture, is paramount for any political body created to act in the public interest. Thank you for your leadership on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Briana Kobor  
Program Director, DG Regulatory Policy  
Vote Solar

Jessica Scott  
Regional Director, Interior West  
Vote Solar